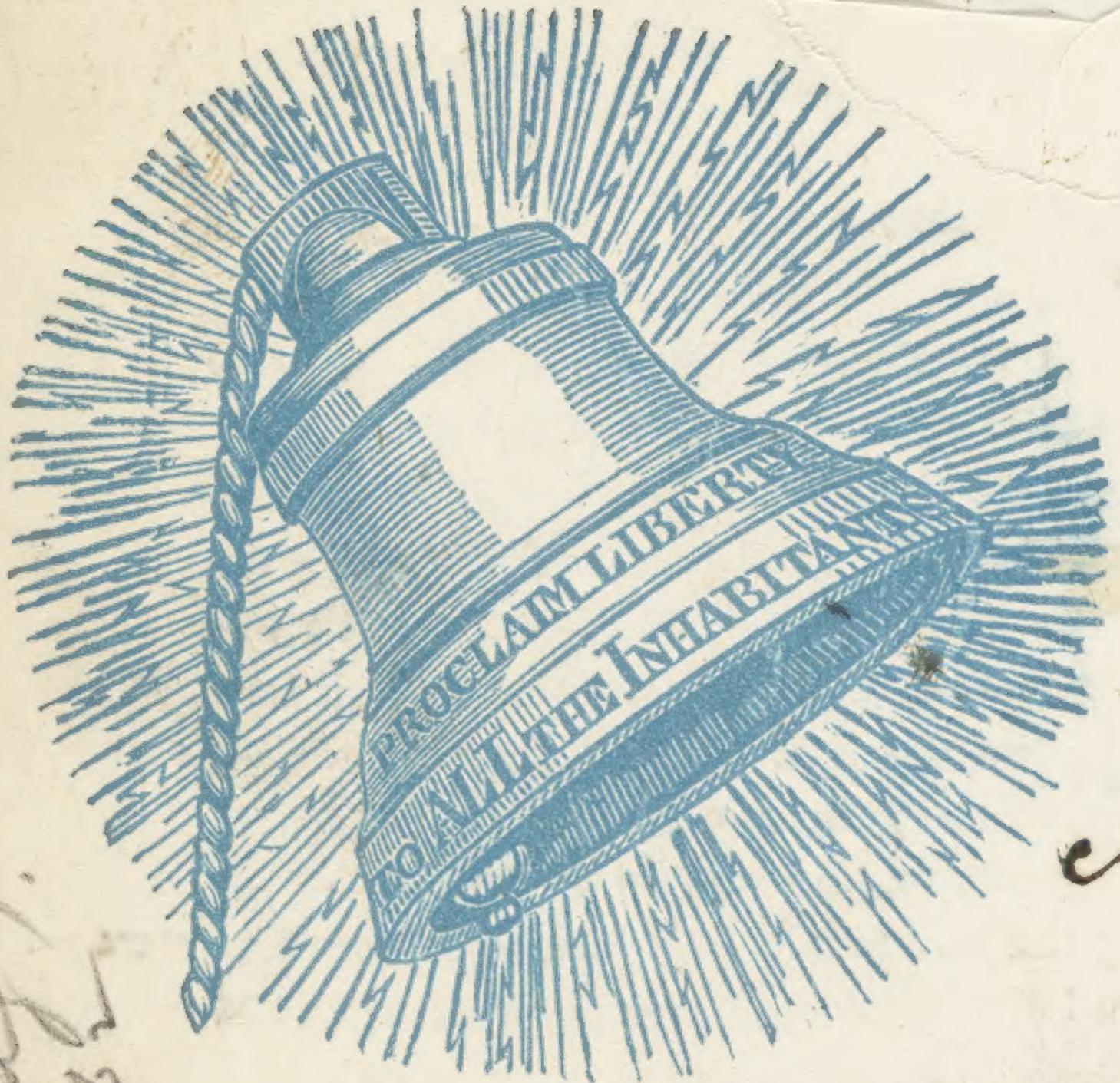


Magie, 316 Chestnut St.

Aug 7.
1862



Oliver Johnson,
New York City.

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS.

The undersigned, citizens of &c., respectfully submit—

That as the present formidable rebellion against the General Government manifestly finds its root and nourishment in the system of chattel slavery at the South; as the leading conspirators are slaveholders, who constitute an oligarchy vowedly hostile to all free institutions; and as, in the nature of things, no solid peace can be maintained while the cause of this treasonable revolt is permitted to exist; your honorable body is urgently implored to lose no time in enacting, under the war power, the total abolition of slavery throughout the country—liberating unconditionally the slaves of all who are rebels, and, while not recognizing the right of property in man, allowing for the emancipated slaves of such as are loyal to the Government a fair pecuniary award, in order to facilitate an amicable adjustment of difficulties; and thus to bring the war to a speedy and beneficent termination, and indissolubly to unite all sections and all interests of the country upon the enduring basis of universal freedom.

Boston, Aug. 7, 1862.

Dear Johnson:

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to the artist, as well as to yourself, for the "negative" sent me. When you see him, tell him I hope he will succeed in displacing all other photographic likenesses of me that may be for sale in New York, as I think his is decidedly preferable to every other. I mean the one where my right hand is placed in my bosom — the other, a more front view, is not worth reproducing. I hope he will make something by the sale, in consequence of my approval of it.

The day was extremely sultry at Williamstown on Monday. I had a fair audience, but as an admission fee of 25 cents (covering Prof. Fowler's adder also,

in the evening) was asked at the door, of course, in these war times, and now that every one has to "wait till his change come," it must have made considerable difference in the number present. My theme was, "Our National Visitation." It was a straightforward anti-slavery talk, containing nothing new or interesting to abolitionists, and written chiefly for that meridian, as a sample of my usual "infidel" method of advocating the cause of the oppressed. It was well received and frequently applauded. At its conclusion, Prof. Bascom (who introduced me) said he had been deeply interested in listening to it, and he could endorse every word of it." I believe he is the only progressive member of the Faculty. I saw no other but himself.

At the request of Merriam, the New York Herald reporter, I left my

manuscript with him to make a synopsis of the address for the Herald. He said he would try to get it printed entire, but doubted, in the pressure of the war matters, whether room could be found for it. He promised to send me the manuscript in due season. I don't think the Tribune would care to publish it, if it had it. As I have said, it was written chiefly for the occasion and the place.

Who should be present among my auditors but Susan B. Anthony, of Rochester? She is recreating at North Adams, and came over expressly to hear me.

We have had in the Liberator, for two years past, a colored journeyman printer, by the name of Mitchell, who, now that we have done printing tracts, is out of employment. He wishes me to inquire whether there is any chance for him to obtain a situation in the office where the Standard is printed. I can strongly

recommend him as one who is highly intelligent, most industrious and reliable, capable of taking any manuscript, and setting it up as it should be punctuated, &c., and remarkably correct as a compositor. He is very amiable, and of gentlemanly address and appearance. I shall be sorry to part with him; but it will give me pleasure if he can obtain a situation in the Standard office. Once there, the employers would be reluctant to lose his services as I am.

When you have occasion to write again, please let me know what the prospect is in his case.

Prof. Fowler's lecture occupied nearly two hours and a half, and was also on the crisis. It was a brilliant performance, delivered with great power, but marred by occasional oddities. He reminds me of O'Connell.

Faithfully yours,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.